



Minutes Tempe Veterans Commission August 03, 2021

Minutes of the TEMPE VETERANS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, August 03,, 6:00 p.m., via Microsoft Teams.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Jeremy Farr, Chair
Abe McCann, Vice-Chair
William "Bill" Blair
Phillip Kraft
Michelle Loposky
Alfred Trevino
Timothy Rogers
Chantele Carr

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Celia Sadhu
William "Bill" Blair

Staff Present:

Octavia Harris, Deputy Human Services Director
Terrisa Mays, Administrative Assistant II

Guests Present:

Mayor Corey Woods, City of Tempe
Tim Gomez, City of Tempe
Paula Veach, Arizona State University

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Chair Jeremy Farr called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Attendance

Agenda Item 3 – Public Appearances

Agenda Item 4 – Review and Approval of June 1, 2021 and July 6, 2021 Minutes

MOTION: Motion to APPROVE November 10, 2020 minutes by Commission Member Phil Kraft

SECOND: Motion seconded by Commission Member Michelle Loposky

AYES: Chair Jeremy Farr, Vice Chair Abe McCann, Commission Members Alfred Trevino, Phillip Kraft, Michelle Loposky, and Chantele Carr,
ABSENT: Commission Members Celia Sadhu and William “Bill” Blair

Agenda Item 5 – Chair’s Remarks

Chair Jeremy Farr welcomed everyone and thanked commission members for their efforts and contributions.

Agenda Item 6 – Update on Veterans Banner Program - Tim Gomez, City of Tempe

The program which is a joint effort between the City of Tempe and the Downtown Tempe Authority (DTA) is going well. The goal is to have 120 banners for the month of November. Currently at 30 banners. Press releases and news spots have been successful in increasing awareness. Commission asked to assist in getting the word out. Two Council Members are sponsoring banners for fire department (5), for police department (5) and for City employees (5) to honor them for their service. DD214s not required to purchase a banner for a veteran. Name, years of service, brand and a photo is what is asked for purchase.

Agenda Item 7 – Focus and Priorities for Tempe Veterans - Mayor Corey Woods, City of Tempe

Mayor Corey Woods thanks Commission members for their service to the country and to Tempe. Elevate our Heroes Banner Program, Mayor Woods to purchase a banner for his brother to honor his military service. Received complete full support of the City Council. Mayor Woods thanks Councilmember Robin Arredondo Savage and Vice Mayor Randy Keating for their efforts. Mayor Woods supports the Veterans Survey and informs that the City is working to ensure that the survey gets a greater response and looks forward to seeing how the survey identifies trends. Mayor Corey Woods and Councilmember Arredondo Savage discussing the Veterans Parade and ideas for the ceremony. Mayor Woods informs the Commission that there is affordable housing for veterans. The City would like to offer new and additional options for affordable housing and workforce housing opportunities for veterans. The City started Hometown for All at the end of January to create additional affordable housing and workforce opportunities in Tempe. \$4.5 million have been generated for the program with 1.2 million of that is currently going to remediate 5 lots on Apache Blvd. When developed, the 5 parcels are estimated to hold 325 rental affordable housing units and 50 home ownership units. Projects are still being formed, the hope is that project and future projects are geared towards veterans. Mayor Woods again thanks members for their service and opportunity to speak to the Commission.

Agenda Item 8 – Request for Items for E-Blast

Commission requests that link to Veterans Banner press release be included. ASU August 19th start date to be included. Staff informs Commission that banner program to be prominently featured.

Agenda Item 9 – Commission Member Updates/Announcements

Abe McCann informs the Commission that roughly 400 National Guard soldiers tasked with the border mission and Covid mission are coming off orders between now and September 15. This could cause strain on requests for City and ASU services. Alfred Trevino informs Commission that Progressive will be accepting applications for car donation program for veterans, and can put those in need in contact with appropriate person. Chantel Carr informs the Commission that Maricopa Community College classes start August 23rd and will be hybrid. Chair Jeremy Farr asks the Commission to spread the word about Murph programs.

Agenda Item 10 – Future Agenda Items – September 7, 2021

- Guest Speaker - Veterans Upward Bound
- Review and Update of Veteran Mentorship Program

Agenda Item 10 – Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Next meeting will be on September 7, 2021

Minutes Prepared by: Terrisa Mays
Reviewed by Octavia Harris

Jeremy Farr, Chair
Tempe Veterans Commission